

C3890 (C) WO

Amended 18 December 2000

CLAIMS:

1. A method for reducing visible surface damage to fabric during laundering which
5 comprises the step of treating the fabric with a neutral modified naturally occurring polysaccharide gum having $\beta_{1,4}$ linkages, the modified polysaccharide having a weight average molecular weight of 250,000 or less, preferably 100,000 or less, more preferably 75,000 or less, to confer a benefit to a textile fabric during laundering thereof.
- 10 2. Method according to claim 1, wherein the modified polysaccharide is derived from a naturally occurring polysaccharide selected from galactomannan (e.g. derived from locust bean gum or guar gum), glucomannan (e.g. Konjac glucomannan), xyloglucan (e.g. tamarind xyloglucan), xanthan gum and mixtures thereof.
- 15 3. A method according to claim 1 or 2 wherein the treatment composition further comprises a surfactant.
4. A method according to claim 3, wherein the amount of surfactant is from 5% to
20 50% by weight of the treatment composition and the amount of modified polysaccharide is from 0.01% to 25% by weight of the treatment composition.

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